

Input Statement for Panel 0

Panel 0

WHERE DO WE WANT TO GO? CONCRETE UTOPIA  
ACTORS OF TRANSFORMATION - MEMBERS OF THE  
DIALOGUE AND GUESTS

Gunter Kramp

Comment from the perspective of agriculture and  
property

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Introduction of myself:

Gunter Kramp, I am an activist in collective and  
solidarity economy since more than 20 Years

Education as a Mechanical engineer,

So I am professional inventor and manager which  
helps a great deal in reinventing economic and social  
structures.

I am consultant for community housing and farming  
projects

I live near Kassel as Member of the Kommune

Niederkaufungen ([www.kommune-](http://www.kommune-niederkaufungen.de)

[niederkaufungen.de](http://www.kommune-niederkaufungen.de)) an egalitarian intentional

community of around 80 People with income and asset  
sharing economy

Agriculture and concrete utopia:

Where can we go and why we need to do that?

Agriculture is often considered not a big thing from  
the standard economic point of view. That ´s far from  
the truth.

Corona crisis in its beginning has shown that its really  
a basic thing what keeps us alive.

Suddenly with international trade chains stumbling,  
the horror film fantasy of collapsing international food

trade links that leaves supermarkets empty and us all starving was no longer considered absurd.

And there is more to it: The forgotten Link between Climate Crisis and agriculture.

As the NGO grain.org pointed out brilliantly by reading the report of climate experts as the IPCC a bit differently the international food industry creates about **half** of the worlds CO2 Emissions.

It comes from fertilizers and energy recources for the food industry like for heating greenhouses, transport and plastics for packaging combined with emissions from degrading soil and burning rainforest.

<https://grain.org/article/entries/4357-food-and-climate-change-the-forgotten-link>

A regenerative, localized, citizen controlled agriculture could provide food sovereignty, making sure that capitalist crisis will not suddenly stop our supply of food.

While also stopping deforestation and international exploitation and most of worlds essentially useless bulk transport.

It could therefore save a lot of about half of the worlds CO2 Emissions without any loss of quality of life.

But it can do even much more:

It is estimated that around 25 to 40% of all the excess CO2 that has been emitted into the atmosphere since first industrial times has come from soil degradation.

The industrial agriculure is a killer of humus in the soil, which basically consists of carbon which is emitted es CO2 when humus is destroyed.

Establishing a regenerative agriculture worldwide could offset, or in easier words compensate about 25% of the world Greenhouse Gas Emissions by the only Carbon capture that's safe, reliable and scalable: creating fertile soil.

This will also increase soil fertility, water retention potential and resistance against unwanted plants, plant illnesses and draughts and floods. So it helps also to cope with climate change effects on agriculture.

Such an agriculture could be the key factor together with renewable energy to save the world at affordable cost.

No sane conscious human could be against it, but it has a big enemy: the capitalist system and the private property of land.

So to really address this issue we need to be realistic and try the impossible: Take back the land as Commons from capitalist enclosure, and unite with movements of similar aims worldwide.

To do this, here in Europe, we need to reinvent the concept of the land commons, politically and juristically.

In the origin of capitalism where people no longer remember that there was a world without private property of land or even the concept of property at all we can't say: stop making land a property like movements in the Americas or Africa have done and are still doing.

Because here there is already nothing but private property since hundreds of Years.

So we can't go back to traditional land rights to say how the land should be cared for and who can use it.

We need a legal hack into the system of property recreating a commons by relationalizing property as the commons researcher Silke Helfrich has described it (<https://www.freefairandalive.org/about/> chapter 8)

That is what the Mietshäusersyndikat (which could be translated housing syndicate [www.syndikat.org](http://www.syndikat.org)) a decentralized Network of more than 160 cooperative housing projects is doing.

Creating new land commons in a Land full of private property.

It has a yet very small offspring, one could say an embryo, the ackersyndikat ( a Farm Syndicate [www.ackersyndikat.org](http://www.ackersyndikat.org) ) of which I am one of the main founders.

On Saturday I will explain that in more detail, but now I hope you got a bit of the big picture in my point of view